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## Occupational Employment and Wages in Nassau-Suffolk, May 2013

Workers in the Nassau-Suffolk Metropolitan Division had an average (mean) hourly wage of \$25.63 in May 2013, about 15 percent above the nationwide average of \$22.33, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Chief Regional Economist Martin Kohli noted that, after testing for statistical significance, wages in the local area were significantly higher than their respective national averages in 18 of the 22 major occupational groups, including management, healthcare practitioners and technical, and construction and extraction. No group had an hourly wage significantly lower than its respective national average.

**Table A. Occupational employment and wages by major occupational group, United States and the Nassau-Suffolk Metropolitan Division, and measures of statistical significance, May 2013**

Major occupational group	Percent of total employment		Mean hourly wage		
	United States	Nassau-Suffolk	United States	Nassau-Suffolk	Percent difference (1)
Total, all occupations .....	100.0%	100.0%	\$22.33	\$25.63*	15
Management .....	4.9	4.3*	53.15	64.23*	21
Business and financial operations .....	5.0	4.2*	34.14	37.31*	9
Computer and mathematical .....	2.8	1.8*	39.43	40.02	1
Architecture and engineering .....	1.8	1.1*	38.51	39.23	2
Life, physical, and social science .....	0.9	0.8	33.37	29.91	-10
Community and social services .....	1.4	1.3*	21.50	26.20*	22
Legal .....	0.8	0.9*	47.89	50.04	4
Education, training, and library .....	6.3	8.1*	24.76	32.32*	31
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media .....	1.3	1.2	26.72	30.21*	13
Healthcare practitioner and technical .....	5.8	6.4	35.93	45.10*	26
Healthcare support .....	3.0	3.4*	13.61	15.68*	15
Protective service .....	2.5	2.2*	20.92	26.95*	29
Food preparation and serving related .....	9.0	8.0*	10.38	11.83*	14
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance .....	3.2	3.9*	12.51	15.60*	25
Personal care and service .....	3.0	4.0*	11.88	13.27*	12
Sales and related .....	10.6	11.2*	18.37	21.65*	18
Office and administrative support .....	16.2	19.8*	16.78	18.83*	12
Farming, fishing, and forestry .....	0.3	0.1*	11.70	14.25*	22
Construction and extraction .....	3.8	4.3*	21.94	29.81*	36
Installation, maintenance, and repair .....	3.9	3.4*	21.35	24.96*	17
Production .....	6.6	4.4*	16.79	17.38*	4
Transportation and material moving .....	6.8	5.3*	16.28	18.56*	14

Footnotes:

(1) A positive percent difference measures how much the mean wage in Nassau is above the national mean wage, while a negative difference reflects a lower wage.

\* The percent share of employment or mean hourly wage for this area is significantly different from the national average of all areas at the 90-percent confidence level.

When compared to the nationwide distribution, local employment was more highly concentrated in 8 of the 22 occupational groups, including office and administrative support; education, training, and library; and personal care and service. Conversely, 11 groups had employment shares significantly below their national representation, including production, transportation and material moving, and food preparation and serving related. (See [table A](#) and box note at end of release.)

One occupational group—education, training, and library—was chosen to illustrate the diversity of data available for any of the 22 major occupational categories. Nassau-Suffolk had 99,910 jobs in education, training, and library, accounting for 8.1 percent of local area employment, significantly higher than the 6.3-percent share nationally. The average annual wage for this occupational group locally was \$67,230, measurably above the national wage of \$51,500.

With employment of 21,060, teacher assistants was among the largest occupation within the education, training, and library group. Other large jobs included secondary school teachers, except special and career/technical education (12,030) and elementary school teachers, except special education (11,950). Among the higher paying jobs were postsecondary health specialties and physics teachers, with mean annual wages of \$134,810 and \$100,360, respectively. At the lower end of the wage scale were teacher assistants (\$28,340) and library technicians (\$31,750). (Detailed occupational data for education, training, and library are presented in [table 1](#); for a complete listing of detailed occupations available go to [www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes\\_35004.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_35004.htm))

Location quotients allow us to explore the occupational make-up of a metropolitan area by comparing the composition of jobs in an area relative to the national average. (See [table 1](#).) For example, a location quotient of 2.0 indicates that an occupation accounts for twice the share of employment in the area than it does nationally. In the Nassau-Suffolk Metropolitan Division, above average concentrations of employment were found in some of the occupations within the education, training, and library group. For instance, special education teachers, preschool were employed at 4.5 times the national rate in Nassau, and self-enrichment education teachers, at 2.5 times the U.S. average. On the other hand, instructional coordinators had a location quotient of 1.0 in Nassau-Suffolk, indicating that this particular occupation's local and national employment shares were similar.

These statistics are from the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) survey, a federal-state cooperative program between BLS and State Workforce Agencies, in this case, the New York State Department of Labor.

### Note

OES wage and employment data for the 22 major occupational groups in the Nassau-Suffolk Metropolitan Division were compared to their respective national averages based on statistical significance testing. Only those occupations with wages or employment shares above or below the national wage or share after testing for significance at the 90-percent confidence level meet the criteria.

NOTE: A value that is statistically different from another does not necessarily mean that the difference has economic or practical significance. Statistical significance is concerned with the ability to make confident statements about a universe based on a sample. It is entirely possible that a large difference between two values is not significantly different statistically, while a small difference is, since both the size and heterogeneity of the sample affect the relative error of the data being tested.

## Technical Note

The Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) survey is a semiannual mail survey measuring occupational employment and wage rates for wage and salary workers in nonfarm establishments in the United States. Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands are also surveyed, but their data are not included in the national estimates. OES estimates are constructed from a sample of about 1.2 million establishments. Forms are mailed to approximately 200,000 sampled establishments in May and November each year for a 3-year period. May 2013 estimates are based on responses from six semiannual panels collected in May 2013, November 2012, May 2012, November 2011, May 2011, and November 2010. The overall national response rate for the six panels is 75.3 percent based on establishments and 71.6 percent based on employment. The sample in the Nassau-Suffolk Metropolitan Division included 6,399 establishments with a response rate of 75 percent. For more information about OES concepts and methodology, go to [www.bls.gov/news.release/ocwage.tn.htm](http://www.bls.gov/news.release/ocwage.tn.htm).

The OES survey provides estimates of employment and hourly and annual wages for wage and salary workers in 22 major occupational groups and 821 detailed occupations for the nation, states, metropolitan statistical areas, metropolitan divisions, and nonmetropolitan areas. In addition, employment and wage estimates for 94 minor groups and 458 broad occupations are available in the national data. OES data by state and metropolitan/nonmetropolitan area are available from [www.bls.gov/oes/current/oessrcst.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oessrcst.htm) and [www.bls.gov/oes/current/oessrcma.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oessrcma.htm), respectively.

The May 2013 OES estimates are based on the 2010 Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system and the 2012 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). Information about the 2010 SOC is available on the BLS website at [www.bls.gov/soc](http://www.bls.gov/soc) and information about the 2012 NAICS is available at [www.bls.gov/bls/naics.htm](http://www.bls.gov/bls/naics.htm).

### Area definitions

The substate area data published in this release reflect the standards and definitions established by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget.

The **Nassau-Suffolk, N.Y. Metropolitan Division** includes Nassau and Suffolk Counties.

### Additional information

OES data are available on our regional web page at [www.bls.gov/regions/new-york-new-jersey](http://www.bls.gov/regions/new-york-new-jersey). Answers to frequently asked questions about the OES data are available at [www.bls.gov/oes/oes\\_ques.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/oes_ques.htm). Detailed technical information about the OES survey is available in our Survey Methods and Reliability Statement on the BLS website at [www.bls.gov/oes/2013/may/methods\\_statement.pdf](http://www.bls.gov/oes/2013/may/methods_statement.pdf). Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request – Voice phone: 202-691-5200; Federal Relay Service: 1-800-877-8339.

**Table 1. Employment and wage data from the Occupational Employment Statistics survey, by occupation, Nassau-Suffolk Metropolitan Division, May 2013**

Occupation <sup>(1)</sup>	Employment		Mean annual wage
	Level <sup>(2)</sup>	Location quotient <sup>(3)</sup>	
Education, training, and library occupations.....	99,910	1.3	\$67,230
Business teachers, postsecondary.....	680	0.9	78,630
Computer science teachers, postsecondary.....	300	0.9	73,820
Mathematical science teachers, postsecondary.....	430	0.9	80,460
Engineering teachers, postsecondary.....	690	2.1	96,930
Biological science teachers, postsecondary.....	280	0.6	76,810
Atmospheric, earth, marine, and space sciences teachers, postsecondary.....	50	0.6	81,460
Chemistry teachers, postsecondary.....	300	1.5	81,020
Physics teachers, postsecondary.....	160	1.2	100,360
Anthropology and archeology teachers, postsecondary.....	70	1.2	70,100
Economics teachers, postsecondary.....	110	0.9	86,460
Political science teachers, postsecondary.....	90	0.5	68,920
Psychology teachers, postsecondary.....	360	1	75,380
Sociology teachers, postsecondary.....	110	0.7	71,280
Social sciences teachers, postsecondary, all other.....	(4)	(4)	63,010
Health specialties teachers, postsecondary.....	970	0.6	134,810
Nursing instructors and teachers, postsecondary.....	340	0.7	82,680
Education teachers, postsecondary.....	680	1.2	68,180
Library science teachers, postsecondary.....	100	2.4	88,340
Criminal justice and law enforcement teachers, postsecondary.....	130	1	72,090
Law teachers, postsecondary.....	180	1.3	(4)
Art, drama, and music teachers, postsecondary.....	600	0.7	66,550
Communications teachers, postsecondary.....	270	1	76,310
English language and literature teachers, postsecondary.....	600	0.9	71,600
Foreign language and literature teachers, postsecondary.....	220	0.8	66,320
History teachers, postsecondary.....	170	0.8	70,820
Philosophy and religion teachers, postsecondary.....	180	0.8	68,390
Recreation and fitness studies teachers, postsecondary.....	200	1.1	67,430
Vocational education teachers, postsecondary.....	530	0.5	52,050
Postsecondary teachers, all other.....	(4)	(4)	104,530
Preschool teachers, except special education.....	4,080	1.2	32,760
Kindergarten teachers, except special education.....	1,310	0.9	94,730
Elementary school teachers, except special education.....	11,950	1	96,860
Middle school teachers, except special and career/technical education.....	6,830	1.2	97,920
Career/technical education teachers, middle school.....	330	2	95,030
Secondary school teachers, except special and career/technical education.....	12,030	1.4	96,250
Career/technical education teachers, secondary school.....	620	0.8	91,390
Special education teachers, preschool.....	1,010	4.5	61,840
Special education teachers, kindergarten and elementary school.....	3,230	1.8	89,930
Special education teachers, middle school.....	1,440	1.6	97,290
Special education teachers, secondary school.....	2,900	2.3	96,650
Special education teachers, all other.....	80	0.2	72,760
Adult basic and secondary education and literacy teachers and instructors.....	1,030	1.6	74,380
Self-enrichment education teachers.....	4,270	2.5	42,170
Substitute teachers.....	9,350	1.6	37,460
Teachers and instructors, all other, except substitute teachers.....	1,570	0.6	58,280
Curators.....	50	0.5	40,920
Librarians.....	2,530	2	73,490
Library technicians.....	1,390	1.6	31,750
Audio-visual and multimedia collections specialists.....	130	1.5	51,630
Instructional coordinators.....	1,290	1	77,510
Teacher assistants.....	21,060	1.9	28,340
Education, training, and library workers, all other.....	(4)	(4)	55,670

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Footnotes:

(1) For a complete listing of all detailed occupations in Nassau-Suffolk, see [www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes\\_35004.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_35004.htm).

(2) Estimates for detailed occupations do not sum to the totals because the totals include occupations not shown separately. Estimates do not include self-employed workers.

(3) The location quotient is the ratio of the area concentration of occupational employment to the national average concentration. A location quotient greater than one indicates the occupation has a higher share of employment than average, and a location quotient less than one indicates the occupation is less prevalent in the area than average.

(4) Estimate not released.